

Report of the auditor-general to the Limpopo Provincial Legislature and the council of the Waterberg District Municipality

Report on the financial statements

Introduction

1. I have audited the financial statements of the Waterberg District Municipality set out on pages **xx to xx**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2014, the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets, and cash flow statement and the statement of comparison of budget information with actual information for the year then ended, as well as the notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Accounting officer's responsibility for the financial statements

2. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the South African Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (SA Standards of GRAP) and the requirements of the Municipal Finance Management Act of South Africa, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003) (MFMA) and Division of Revenue Act, 2012 (Act No. 5 of 2012) (Dora), and for such internal control as the accounting officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor-general's responsibility

3. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with the Public Audit Act of South Africa, 2004 (Act No. 25 of 2004) (PAA), the general notice issued in terms thereof and International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.
4. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

5. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

6. In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Waterberg District Municipality as at 30 June 2014 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with South African Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (SA Standards of GRAP) and the requirements of the Municipal Finance Management Act of South Africa, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003) (MFMA) and Division of Revenue Act, 2012 (Act No. 5 of 2012) (DoRA).

Emphasis of matters

7. I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

Restatement of corresponding figures

8. As disclosed in note 43 to the financial statements, the corresponding figures for 30 June 2013 have been restated as a result of an error discovered during 2014 in the financial statements of the municipality at, and for the year ended, 30 June 2013.

Material underspending of the budget

9. As disclosed in Annexure A1 to the financial statements, the municipality has materially underspent its expenditure budget to the amount of R18 570 446. As a consequence, the municipality has not achieved all of its objectives as set out in its performance report.
10. As disclosed in Annexure A2 to the financial statements, the municipality has materially underspent its capital expenditure budget to the amount of R4 339 652. As a consequence, the municipality has not achieved all of its objectives as set out in its performance report.

Additional matter

11. I draw attention to the matter below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Unaudited supplementary schedules

12. The supplementary information set out on pages xx to xx does not form part of the financial statements and is presented as additional information. I have not audited these schedules and accordingly I do not express an opinion thereon.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

13. In accordance with the PAA and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I report the following findings relevant to performance against predetermined objectives, compliance

with laws and regulations and internal control, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion.

Predetermined objectives

14. I performed procedures to obtain evidence about the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the following selected votes presented in the annual performance report of the group for the year ended 30 June 2014.
 - Vote 2: Office of the Municipal Manager on pages X to X
 - Vote 5: Infrastructure Development on pages X to X
 - Vote: 7: Social Development & Community Services on pages X to X
15. I evaluated the reported performance information against the overall criteria of usefulness and reliability.
16. I evaluated the usefulness of reported performance information to determine whether it was presented in accordance with the National Treasury's annual reporting principles and whether the reported performance was consistent with the planned vote. I further performed tests to determine whether indicators and targets were well defined, verifiable, specific, measurable, time bound and relevant, as required by the National Treasury's *Framework for managing programme performance information* (FMPPI).
17. I assessed the reliability of the reported performance information to determine whether it was valid, accurate and complete.
18. I did not raise any material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the selected votes.

Additional matters

19. I draw attention to the following matters:

Achievement of planned targets

20. Refer to the annual performance report on pages X to X and X to X for information on the achievement of planned targets for the year. This information should be considered in the context of the material findings on usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the selected programmes reported in paragraphs XX to XX of this report.

Adjustment of material misstatements

21. I identified material misstatements in the annual performance report submitted for auditing on the reported performance information for vote 2: Office of the Municipal Manager, vote 5: Infrastructure Development, and vote 7: Social Development & Community Services. As management subsequently corrected the misstatements, I did not raise any material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information.

Unaudited supplementary schedules

22. The supplementary information set out on pages x to x does not form part of the annual performance report and is presented as additional information. We have not audited these schedules and, accordingly, we do not express a conclusion thereon.

Compliance with laws and regulations

23. I performed procedures to obtain evidence that the municipality had complied with applicable legislation regarding financial matters, financial management and other related matters. My findings on material non-compliance with specific matters in key legislation, as set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA, are as follows:

Financial statements, performance and annual reports

24. The financial statements submitted for auditing were not prepared in all material respects in accordance with the requirements of section 122 of the MFMA.
25. Material misstatements of non-current liabilities and disclosure items identified by the auditors in the submitted financial statements were subsequently corrected and the supporting records were provided subsequently, resulting in the financial statements receiving an unqualified audit opinion.

Internal control

26. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, annual performance report and compliance with legislation. The matters reported below are limited to the significant internal control deficiencies that resulted in the findings on the annual performance report and the findings on non-compliance with legislation included in this report.

Leadership

27. The municipality has not implemented sufficient monitoring controls to ensure accurate reporting on predetermined objectives.

Financial and performance management

28. The financial statements and the reported performance information contained a number of misstatements that were corrected. This was mainly due to capacity constraints within the financial section.

Governance

29. The reported performance information contain a number targets where the reported performance of the district municipality do not agree with the audit evidence submitted for audit purposes. This was mainly due to inadequate review by internal audit.

Auditor - General

Polokwane

28 November 2014



AUDITOR - GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

Auditing to build public confidence